

Message Text

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TAGS: MARR, US, SA, OVIP (CLEMENTS, WILLIAM P.)

SUBJ: ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE STATEMENTS; POSSIBLE QUESTIONS
AND ANSWERS CLEMENTS VISIT

REF : STATE 81054

1. ARRIVAL STATEMENT JIDDA:

QUOTE: IT IS A DEEP PERSONAL PLEASURE FOR ME TO VISIT THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA WHOSE GOVERNMENT'S SINCERE HOSPITALITY IS LEGEND AND IS DEEPLY APPRECIATED BY THOSE OF US FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO VISIT HERE.

IN MY CAPACITY AS DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, I AM HERE TO CONFER WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND SAUDI ARABIA ON SECURITY MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST TO THE TWO COUNTRIES.

I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO ENGAGING IN CORDIAL AND FRANK DISCUSSIONS WITH THE OFFICIALS CONCERNED SO AS TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE STRONG TIES OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION THAT HAVE TRADITIONALLY CHARACTERIZED THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

THANK YOU. UNQUOTE.

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2. ARRIVAL STATEMENT RIYADH:

QUOTE: I AM DEEPLY PLEASED TO BE IN THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA AND AMONG FRIENDS WHOSE GOOD WILL AND WISE COUNSEL I HAVE CHERISHED AND HIGHLY ESTEEMED FOR MANY YEARS. IT IS ALWAYS PERSONALLY HEARTENING FOR ME TO RETURN HERE WHERE I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN RECEIVED WITH TRADITIONAL WARMTH AND GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING MANY OLD FRIENDS. I HAVE COME TO MEET WITH HIS MAJESTY AND SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA IN ORDER TO DISCUSS WITH THEM SECURITY MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN TO OUR TWO COUNTRIES WITH THE PURPOSE OF FURTHER STRENGTHENING THE FIRM BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION THAT HAVE LONG CHARACTERIZED THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA. SAUDI-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION IS BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF MUTUAL RESPECT CONTINUALLY SUSTAINED BY A CORDIAL AND FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. MY VISIT IS DEDICATED TO FURTHER ENHANCING THE STRONG TIES WHICH BIND OUR TWO NATIONS TOGETHER. THANK YOU. UNQUOTE.

3. DEPARTURE STATEMENT RIYADH:

QUOTE: I WISH FIRST OF ALL TO EXPRESS MY DEEP APPRECIATION TO HIS MAJESTY, KING KHALID, HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE FAHD, HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ABDULLAH, HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE SULTAN, HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE TURKI AND ALL OF OUR SAUDI FRIENDS FOR THE CORDIAL AND GRACIOUS RECEPTION WE HAVE RECEIVED HERE.

WE LEAVE HERE HAVING BENEFITED GREATLY FROM OUR VERY USEFUL AND FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS RELATING TO THE MUTUAL SECURITY INTERESTS OF THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA AND THE UNITED STATES. THE WISE VIEWS AND COUNSEL OF HIS MAJESTY AND THE SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA AS ALWAYS HAVE BEEN UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORTIVE IN FURTHER ENHANCING THE FIRM TIES OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION WHICH CHARACTERIZE THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. THANK YOU. UNQUOTE.

4. POSSIBLE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR SAUDI NEWS AGENCY:
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Q: WHAT IS YOUR PURPOSE FOR VISITING THE AREA? IS IT FOR MAKING NEW MILITARY AGREEMENTS OR SELLING ARMS TO THE SAUDI NATIONAL GUARD?

A: THIS TRIP TAKES ME TO ONLY TWO COUNTRIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST: SAUDI ARABIA AND BAHRAIN. THE PURPOSE OF MY VISIT IS TO BETTER ACQUAINT MYSELF WITH THE MILITARY OUTLOOK OF SAUDI ARABIA AND TO DISCUSS ON-GOING ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

BETWEEN THE MILITARY IN SAUDI ARABIA AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. IT IS ALSO FOR ME A PLEASANT OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW MY ACQUAINTANCE WITH SAUDI OFFICIALS I HAVE MET IN THE UNITED STATES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND IN SAUDI ARABIA WHEN I VISITED HERE PREVIOUSLY AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN.

Q: WHAT IS YOUR IMPRESSION ABOUT SAUDI ARABIA AND ITS ROLE IN THE REGION?

A: UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF KING FAISAL (MAY HE FIND PEACE), THE UNITED STATES LOOKED UPON SAUDI ARABIA AS A FIRM BULWARK IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE AREA. UNDER HIS GUIDANCE SAUDI ARABIA WAS A FORCE OF MODERATION AND STABILITY WHICH CONTRIBUTED CONSTRUCTIVELY TO DR. KISSINGER'S PEACE EFFORTS IN THE AREA AND THE MAINTENANCE OF THE RIGHT OF ALL NATIONS TO BE FREE FROM OUTSIDE COERCION IN SEEKING A GOOD LIFE FOR THEIR PEOPLES.

WE BELIEVE THAT THIS ROLE IN THE AREA WILL CONTINUE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF KING KHALED, AS HE HAS ANNOUNCED TO THE PEOPLE OF SAUDI ARABIA AND THE WORLD.

Q: WHAT WILL BE THE U.S. POLICY IN THE MIDDLE EAST IN LIGHT OF THE DECLARED RE-ASSESSMENT OF U.S. POLICY?

A: PRESIDENT FORD ADDRESSED THIS QUESTION IN HIS SPEECH APRIL 10 TO THE CONGRESS AND TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. AS HE SAID, THE U.S. WILL REMAIN RESOLUTE IN ITS DESIRE TO SEE A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT TO THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT SO THAT THE PEOPLES OF THE AREA MAY PURSUE FULLEST DEVELOPMENT OF THEMSELVES AND THEIR COUNTRIES.

Q: HOW DOES HE SEE THE DEVELOPMENT OF SAUDI ARABIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS IN LIGHT OF THE AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION SIGNED DURING PRINCE FAHD'S VISIT TO THE U.S. A YEAR AGO?

A. SAUDI ARABIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS HAVE BEEN STRONG AND CHARACTERIZED BY COOPERATION IN MANY FIELDS FOR SEVERAL
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DECades. THE AGREEMENT OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION SIGNED BY PRINCE FAHD AND THE SECRETARY OF TREASURY WAS THE NATURAL OUTCOME OF THESE TIES AND JUST ONE STEP OF MANY IN CONTINUING DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF TIES OF FRIENDSHIP THAT CONTINUE TO BIND OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES.

Q: DOES HE PLAN TO INSPECT SAUDI BASES?

A: NO.
AKINS

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